



# Common Sense Initiative

Mike DeWine, *Governor*

Jon Husted, *Lt. Governor*

May 21, 2024

Chairman Wilkin, Vice Chair Hillyer, and members of the Sunset Review Committee, my name is Joseph Baker and I am the Director of the Common Sense Initiative in the office of Governor Mike DeWine and Lieutenant Governor Jon Husted. Thank you for having me here today.

The Small Business Advisory Council (SBAC) is established in R.C. 107.63 to advise the Governor, Lt. Governor, and the Common Sense Initiative (CSI) on the adverse impact rules have on small businesses. The Common Sense Initiative is led by Lieutenant Governor Jon Husted and reviews regulations to filter out unjustified barriers to business and identify areas where Ohio's rules have not caught up with business and technology.

The perspective of the Small Business Advisory Council is helpful to ensure that our team hears the voices of small business owners in Ohio when evaluating state regulations. It is difficult to identify the friction points in government compliance without hearing directly from the people who must comply. The Small Business Advisory Council provides CSI with an additional link between the regulators and the regulated.

The Council meets as needed, but CSI staff contacts council members on a biweekly basis to enable each member to give feedback on rules reviewed by our team. The SBAC consists of nine members – five appointed by the Lt. Governor, and two each appointed by the Senate President and the House Speaker. The members do not receive any compensation or mileage reimbursement.

CSI looks forward to continuing to work with the business community and leaders on the SBAC to ensure that regulations do not stand in the way of innovation and job creation. Thank you for your time and consideration.